



ecology and environment, inc.

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International Specialists in the Environmental Sciences

MEMORANDUM

TO: Paul La Courreye, EPA

FROM: Jane Hoppin, Ecology and Environment, Inc.

DATE: December 17, 1986

SUBJECT: Dow Chemical Company - Torrance Plant Preliminary Assessment prepared by Mary Osborne of the California DOHS dated October 1985.

EPA ID No.: CAD009547050

cc: Martha Walters, Ecology and Environment, Inc.

Summary

Dow Chemical Corporation began operations at their Torrance facility when they bought the property in 1950 from Chanslor-Canfield Midway Oil now known as the Santa Fe Energy Company. Dow produces polystyrene and ABS pellets, styrofoam and epoxy resins at the Crenshaw Boulevard site. Their activities result in the generation of approximately 300 tons of hazardous waste per year. Since August 1983, Dow has been permitted as a TSD facility under RCRA. Currently, their wastes are disposed of off-site at Class I disposal sites.

This site became of concern while Dow was removing its underground tanks when an acetone tank was noticed to be leaking. Therefore, they submitted a cleanup proposal to the RWQCB and commenced cleanup. The RWQCB has approved the remedial action and feels that the site no longer poses a problem (Contact Report with Elijah Hill, RWQCB, 12/12/86).

RCRA Status

Dow Chemical Corporation is a permitted TSD facility; they received the permit in August 1983. The tank excavation and subsequent cleanup were required under their permit obligations as well as their waste discharge requirements from the RWQCB. The cleanup consisted of tank and contaminated soil removal and of subsurface soil borings to determine if the acetone had migrated vertically. The RWQCB felt the cleanup was adequate to prevent impact to groundwater.

HRS Factors

It is unlikely the site will score using the current HRS factors. No observed release has been documented. Groundwater in the area is believed to be very deep and the contaminant, acetone, did not penetrate the soil below the tank. The nearest surface water is the Dominguez Channel into which wastewater was discharged. This discharge is regulated by the RWQCB. Acetone has a toxicity/persistence score of 6 for groundwater. Acetone is readily biodegraded and is relatively nonpersistent in the environment.

Recommendation/Justification

The State recommended to hold action under CERCLA pending the efficacy of the State's enforcement efforts. Since it appears the Dow's cleanup efforts have mitigated the hazard and that the state's oversight of Dow has been effective, FIT concurs with the state's recommendation of no further action under CERCLA.

*Concur. No further action under Cercla
appears to be warranted.*

Paul J. Courge
1-26-87.

CONTACT REPORT

AGENCY: RWQCB
ADDRESS: Los Angeles, CA
PERSON
CONTACTED: Elijah Hill
PHONE NO.: (213) 620-5664
FROM: Jane Hoppin
TO: Dow Chemical Company file
DATE: December 12, 1986
SUBJECT: PA followup
CC:

Since the preliminary assessment was prepared in October 1985, Dow has performed site cleanup and prepared a final report for the RWQCB. The RWQCB has approved of the cleanup which involved excavation of a leaking underground tank containing acetone, removal of contaminated soil and analysis of subsurface borings to confirm cleanup. No further action at the site has been requested by the RWQCB.

CONTACT REPORT

AGENCY: DOHS-RCRA
ADDRESS: Los Angeles, CA
PERSON
CONTACTED: Nennett Alvarez
PHONE NO.: (213) 620-2380
FROM: Jane Hoppin
TO: Dow Chemical File
DATE: 12/12/86
SUBJECT: RCRA Status
cc:

The Dow Chemical Company facility in Torrance, California has a TSD permit under RCRA.